

Listing of Claims:

30. (Currently Amended) A method of supporting a body lumen comprising the steps of:

a) providing a stent having an interior layer and an exterior layer, said interior layer

having a securing means thereon;

b) placing said stent ~~a support~~ around the exterior of a body lumen; and,

c) securing the support to the lumen to the securing means.

31. (Currently Amended) A method of support as in claim 30 wherein:

~~the support~~ stent covers less than the total circumference of the lumen.

32. (Currently Amended) A method of support as in claim 30 wherein:

~~the support~~ stent comprises a biologically inert material.

33. (Currently Amended) A method of support as in claim 32 wherein:

~~the support~~ stent further comprises a shape-memory material.

34. (Currently Amended) A method of support as in claim 30 wherein:

~~the support~~ stent comprises a biologically active material.

35. (Currently Amended) A method of support as in claim 30 wherein:

~~the support~~ stent comprises resorbable material.

36. (Currently Amended) A method of support as in claim 30 wherein:

~~the support~~ stent comprises a radioactive element for delivering radiation directly
to the lumen.

37. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 30 wherein:

~~the support~~ stent is porous.

38. (Currently Amended) A method of support as in claim 30 wherein:

the ~~support-stent~~ is a single unified member.

39. (Currently Amended) A method of support as in claim 30 wherein:

the ~~support-stent~~ comprises at least two members flexibly joined together.

40. (Currently Amended) A method of support as in claim 30 wherein:

the ~~support-stent~~ is bifurcated.

41. (Currently Amended) A method of support as in claim 30 wherein:

the ~~support-stent~~ is secured by a barb.

42. (Currently Amended) A method of support as in claim 30 wherein:

the ~~support-stent~~ is secured by a hook.

43. (Currently Amended) A method of support as in claim 30 wherein:

the ~~support-stent~~ is secured by an adhesive.

44. (Currently Amended) A method of support as in claim 30 wherein:

the ~~support-stent~~ comprises a braided material.

45. (Currently Amended) A method of support as in claim 30 wherein:

the support is substantially composed of resorbable material.

46. (Currently Amended) A method of support as in claim 30 wherein:

the ~~support-stent~~ is porous.

47. (cancelled)

48. (Currently Amended) A method of support as in claim 30 wherein:

the ~~support-stent~~ is secured by sutures.

49. (Currently Amended) A method of support as in claim 30 wherein:

the ~~support-stent~~ locks onto the lumen to prevent it from slipping.

50. (Currently Amended) A method of support as in claim 30 further comprising:

a reinforcing layer for strengthening the support stent.